

The Bloomfield Record.

[OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE TOWNSHIP.]

S. M. HULIN, Editor and Proprietor.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 1875.

NOTICE All who are interested in having a live newspaper in this village are requested to send us by mail, or to the publishing office, local items of news, correspondence, etc., for publication.

No charge is made for publishing Marriages, Deaths, or Religious Notices.

Single numbers of THE RECORD can always be had at this Office, at the Post Office, and at the Newsdealers.

All kinds of PRINTING done at THE RECORD Office.

The Constitutional Amendments.

The time is drawing near for the Special Election to vote upon the adoption or rejection of the proposed amendments to the State Constitution.

There are only one or two of the proposed changes that seem to provoke discussion: One of these is Paragraph 20, Art. I, which proposed to be amended as follows:

"No donation of land or appropriation of money shall be made by the state or any municipal corporation to or for the use of any society, association or corporation whatever."

This is a very important and wise amendment. It ought not to fail of adoption, because it impartially sets at rest the vexed question of state aid to denominational asylums and all other societies and corporations. Let us keep as far removed as possible from a union of Church and State. All will remember the political ill-will and strife that was occasioned last winter over the Catholic Protective legislation. The State Government ought not to be in any way identified or encumbered with these projects of aid and recognition to schools, reformatories or associations managed by political bodies or religious sects, of whatever complexion they may be. Therefore we think that all good citizens who cherish the perpetuation of constitutional liberty; all who love and appreciate freedom in its truest sense, should vote heartily for this amendment.

Another amendment which excites some anxiety and discussion is that relating to taxation:

"Property shall be assessed for taxes under general laws, by uniform rules, according to its true value."

The Newark Courier publishes the opinion of a lawyer of acknowledged ability, which is that this amendment will work a radical change in taxation, that property, real and personal, will be taxed where found, without any exemptions.

By the provisions of an act passed in 1866 certain *urbanity*, *industry*, *refinement*, *of the United States and this State*; all securities of municipalities exempt by special enactment; all colleges, etc., of learning, public libraries, school houses and places of religious worship, and the endowment fund of any of these; all buildings for charitable purposes, stock of any corporation which by its charter or contract with the State is expressly exempt.

There is also an exemption clause for debts owing by the party assessed to creditors within the State.

In 1869, however, "An act relative to taxes in certain counties in this State," was passed by which the provisions of the act of 1866 were repealed so far as relates to the mode of assessments and deductions for mortgage debts in the counties of Passaic, Hudson, Union and Essex, and the city of New Brunswick, Middlesex.

By the provisions of this Special Act, known as the "Five County Act," no deductions are made from our taxes for mortgage debts. In other words, the borrower, not the lender, pays the tax upon the money loaned.

The opinion referred to above interprets the working of the amendment as follows:

Under this amendment property would have to be assessed where found. Nothing exempt. No church, public school house, charitable institution, college—none of those institutions which are exempt under the act of 1866. Nor could the Legislature pass an act exempting them; and further, the property is to be assessed according to its "true value." No deductions for debt. The virtual result of the amendment is, while it makes void the act of 1866 (Five County Act), to so modify the act of 1866 as to accomplish just what the special act of 1869 now does where it applies. And under this amendment the Legislature adopts a statute to regulate taxation it must be a general law and must provide "uniform rules," under which property will have to be assessed wherever found, without exemption and without any deductions for debts, taxing all property, to whomsoever belonging. Neither judgments, mortgages, nor personal debts can be deducted, but tax must be paid on the "true value" of the property, and the true value of property when mortgaged is the equity and the encumbrances included.

The following Assessors have been appointed by Judge Depue, on application of Essex Public Board for Bloomfield avenue: James G. Barnet, Newark; James H. Tichnor, Newark; Charles W. Harrison, Irvington; Isaac A. Wade, Irvington; Moses P. Smith, South Orange.

POSTSCRIPT! The very latest—Highly important! As we go to press a courier brings in the news that the missing slabs from the stone sidewalk near Broad and Liberty street have been replaced. A season of great rejoicing is imminent.

Mrs. Gordon Winslow, with the Misses M. D. and H. Hart, go to Europe to-morrow in the steamer Adriatic, and will be absent until next summer.

Another Young Burglar Caught.
The New Library Building the Lurking Place.—Exciting Chase from Pit Dome by Lantern-Light.

The good people of Monroe Place and vicinity have been in a state of anxiety and fear occasioned by the recent burglaries in that street, two houses in the above neighborhood having been broken into within the past week. Last Thursday evening, Jas. N. Day's house was visited, a window over the piazza was smashed, enabling the thief to push back the fastening and raise the sash. A large navy revolver, worth ten or fifteen dollars, some jewelry, and a few other small articles were removed. A valuable rifle was taken from its case, but left standing in one of the rooms.

In Mr. Day's house nothing of any considerable value was taken, the burglar contenting himself with mischievously exploring drawers and closets and teasing up the sweatshirts and other dainties which he found.

Constable Geo. W. Perry having been informed of these robberies, interested himself in endeavoring to trace out and capture the thief. Suspicion fell upon a boy named Joe Fullman, whose parents reside in Monroe Place, the father being well-known as an industrious well-digger and gardener. Upon inquiry being made, some of the neighbors stated that this lad had been seen upon the piazza of Mr. Pierson's house at an early hour on Monday morning. Constable Perry thereupon determined to arrest Fullman at the first opportunity, and was on the lookout for him at the Center on Monday evening. About 8 o'clock his watching was rewarded, Fullman appearing upon the street near Lee's Market. The officer endeavored to arrest him but the lad, apparently knowing what was up, started off upon a run Bloomfield avenue, the constable in hot pursuit, calling upon him to halt. Thinking to frighten him into a surrender, Perry fired a shot over the fugitive's head, but it only quickened his footsteps. He ran through Samuel Moore's yard, and thence through Moore's Woods on Wednesday, 25th inst.

The Catholic Societies of Montclair and Bloomfield will have another picnic at Gallagher's Woods on Wednesday, 25th inst.

Donald McKay's tribe of Warm Spring Indians were in town on Thursday and in the evening gave an entertainment at Jacobus Hall.

The Catholic Sisters connected with St. Michael's Hospital have been in town during the week, soliciting contributions for that institution.

Taylor, Bros. & Co. have been awarded the contract for laying plank sidewalks for the ensuing year, they being the lowest bidders.

There will be a special meeting of the Town Committee this (Friday) evening at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of examining the Assessor's books.

Edward Moran had a bay horse stolen from his premises on Sunday evening last. A clue has been obtained to the thief and officers are now in pursuit.

Dr. John Hawes has purchased of Warren & Crosby about one and a quarter acres of land on Eagle Rock Way at \$3000 per acre, on which he proposes to erect a residence.

At the meeting of the Town Committee on Wednesday evening the attention of the Health Officer was specially called to a nuisance on property owned by James Crane on Spring street, and also to the condition of lots on the south side of Bloomfield avenue between the Hotel and the Presbyterian parsonage.

On Saturday last at Carlton Park there was a pigeon shooting match between Henry Sigler of this place and Samuel Bayley of Orange for \$100 per side. 15 birds, 25 yards rise, 80 yards bound, and one and a quarter ounces of shot. The match was won by Sigler who killed 11 to his opponents 10.

An anonymous communication purporting to come from Ashland Hall and signed "Boarders," complaining of the bad condition of the lots below that place, was at the last meeting of the Town Committee ordered to be returned to the parsonage.

Rev. Father A. M. Steets at the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday last severely censured our town authorities for allowing so much corner loaving on the public thoroughfares. He also warned his congregation against the sin of attending the afternoon meeting on the 20th inst.

Competition is the life of trade. Michael Levy has just opened a new grocery store on the Old Road, and he and James E. Murphy at the Fountain Head, who has long enjoyed a monopoly in that section, are trying to see which can sell goods. Murphy has already got bread down to six cents a loaf and other articles of daily consumption far below the lowest city prices.

Thomas A. Levy Esq. has dissolved his connection with the grocery firm of Farrel & Levy, and purchased the carriage business of J. D. Mockridge on Bloomfield avenue, where he will continue to manufacture and repair all kinds of carriages at prices which cannot fail to give satisfaction. His long residence in this vicinity and his extensive acquaintance will secure him a large share of public patronage.

steal, and, against his will, had forced him into the commission of crimes of this kind. A few months ago an older brother was sent to the county penitentiary on complaint of the father, against whom he committed a forgery. It is probable that Joe, who is in his fifteenth year, will be sent to the Reform School. He is said to be a smart and capable boy, and hopes are entertained that he will be reclaimed.

We have had four gleams of sunshine during the past week.

The mud in Broad street, near the Midland R. R. crossing is fully as bad as it was at any time during the late winter. When will something be done about draining our streets?

S. N. Baldwin is putting down an extensive drain under his property on the west side of Broad street. He is not only adding to the value of his own land, but is also a public benefactor.

The contracts for building the new almshouse have been awarded to the lowest bidders as follows: The carpenter work to Bastmas and Haley, \$1073; mason work to Richard Jacobus, \$479.

MONTCLAIR.

J. A. Chamberlain and family of Chestnut street have gone to Maine on their annual vacation.

Ho, ye all that thirst! Jerome Sigler has just erected an iron pump in front of the Central Hotel. Free to all.

Messrs. J. C. Brautigam and N. Sullivan on Mountain Avenue suffered severely by last week's heavy rains.

Owing to the extreme wet weather the picnic of St. Luke's Episcopal Sunday School has been indefinitely postponed.

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Treasure valued at \$100,000 has been recovered by a diver from the wreck of the Schiller.

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Miss Kellogg has perfected her arrangements to open the operatic season at New York on the 11th of October next. She has engaged as a prima donna the promising young Baltimore contralto, Miss Annie Montague.

Theodore Tilton is writing a novel, which is already half finished. He expects it will be published by Christmas, but is very reticent as to topic and plot. He has lecture engagements covering most of the winter.

When a Massachusetts man walked seventeen miles to see a man hung, and the prisoner was respite, the disgruntled traveler sat down in a fence corner and hurriedly inquired if this country was drifting back to barbarism.

The miners are preparing to leave the Black Hills, covering up their richest ledges to prevent their becoming known until such time as they can return. The country is considered rich in gold, and some valuable diggings are located near a town called Stonewall, which has been laid out on Custer's Gulch.

A surplus of \$5,000 is in the hands of the London Committee, after paying all the bills connected with Moody and Sankey's labors, and is to be appropriated to a noon-day prayer-meeting to be continued daily. An evangelistic building is to be erected at the West End as a memorial of Moody and Sankey's work.

Georgia has had a scare, caused in Washington and Jefferson counties on account of the reported attempt by the negroes at insurrection. Eighty arrests were made and the white military companies in these counties were ordered by the Governor to report to the Sheriff. The prisoners were all lodged in jail without resistance. The alleged plot contemplated a massacre of the whites on the 20th inst.

A special dispatch to Chicago from Whitehall, Mich., says the body of N. S. Grimwood, who ascended with Donaldson in his ill-fated balloon, has been found on the beach of Lake Michigan, near Stone Creek. The body was fully dressed, with the exception of boots or shoes. Letters belonging to Mr. Grimwood and notes of his balloon trip were found on the body, fully establishing its identity.

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After the arrest, a hearing took place before Justice Hall. Fullman confessed that he had broken into both the dwellings, spoken of above, and that he had stolen the pistol, knives and other trinkets from Mr. Pierson's. The latter gentleman was present at the examination and when he said the stolen pistol was a valuable one, Fullman, with unaffected simplicity, contradicted him, declaring that "it wasn't worth more than a dollar," and that the jewelry he took wasn't "much account." But this defense did not avail him, and though his mother who was also present, wept and felt very badly, Joseph was committed to the tender mercies of Capt. Johnson at the county jail in Newark. On the way thither he stated that his father taught him to

steal, and, against his will, had forced him into the commission of crimes of this kind. A few months ago an older brother was sent to the county penitentiary on complaint of the father, against whom he committed a forgery. It is probable that Joe, who is in his fifteenth year, will be sent to the Reform School. He is said to be a smart and capable boy, and hopes are entertained that he will be reclaimed.

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The Midland Road.

The ferry at the Passaic river crossing is still used to transfer passengers, and it seems improbable that a new bridge will be erected until after the foreclosure sale. It is said that the different interests have agreed to give control of the property permanently to the first mortgage bondholders at once, and that Mr. Abram S. Hewitt, now absent in Europe, who represents the second mortgage bondholders, has been telegraphed for his approval, which alone is lacking, to consummate the arrangement. This will obviate the necessity of waiting until Sept. 11, the date at which the road is to be sold. The proposed reorganization contemplates the issuing of \$700,000 first mortgage seven per cent. construction bonds secured by a lien on the whole property, coupons payable half yearly. Of this amount \$175,000 is to be appropriated to the purchase of new rolling stock, and \$125,000 for the completion of the road to Greenwood Lake and Caldwell, and to put the part already constructed in good order. The trestle-work is to be all filled in, and a new iron and stone bridge is to be erected over the Passaic River. Bonds to the amount of \$18,000,000, bearing seven per cent., will be issued to the first mortgage bondholders, and \$18,000,000 of stocks will be printed as collateral. An issue of common stock will be made for coupons past due and maturing, and for the face of the present second mortgage bonds.

Complaint was made to the Board of Freeholders in regard to the stoppage of the culverts which have existed many years in this vicinity, on Glenwood and Washington avenues and the railroad are still, many of them, under water, with no way of relief except the slow, unhealthful processes of evaporation and filtration through the soil. The property on both the streets named has been entirely filled in and built up, but without any allowances having been made for drainage.

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